

Diseases of Children

by Hugh Jolly MA MD MRCP DCH

pp x + 586 illustrated 47s 6d

Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications 1964

Dr Jolly has written a pleasant readable text on diseases of children. It is already a favourite with medical students. The accounts of diseases are brief and pointed, and are not overburdened with basic physiology. By omitting references to review articles and current works the author seems to indicate his wish to follow the orthodox clinical trend of London medical education.

The material is arranged suitably for the student beginning his studies of diseases that affect children. Those taking higher medical examinations and medical practitioners need greater detail in diagnosis and in treatment. It is easy to be critical of any textbook, to find fault with selection and omission or with the emphasis placed by the author on particular parts of his subject; it is easy to grumble that he has packed too much into his sentences or that his loose constructions in the writing have wasted space that could be better filled with more detail. The problem that neither Dr Jolly nor his publishers have quite solved is availability of facts if the text is used for reference. For example, an old-fashioned account is given of bronchiectasis without any mention of its occurrence in hypogammaglobulinaemia; and although cystic fibrosis of the pancreas is said to produce bronchiectasis this is not referred to in the index nor in the piece about bronchiectasis. Similarly, although projectile vomiting is described under salt-losing adrenal hyperplasia, the difficulties in the differential diagnosis of pyloric stenosis are not mentioned in the account of this condition, nor could they be discovered from the index.

Most of the facts are here, and the medical student relying on Dr Jolly's text is advised to become familiar with the whole book. This is a nice book, but it may be that too much of a priority has been given to making it well produced and pleasant to read.

ALFRED WHITE FRANKLIN

The Year Book of Medicine

(1964-1965 Series)

edited by Paul B Beeson MD, Carl Muschenheim MD, William B Castle MD, Tinsley R Harrison MD, Franz J Ingelfinger MD and Philip K Bondy MD
pp 808 illustrated 64s

*Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers 1964**London: Lloyd-Luke*

The latest year book of medicine has six sections, each edited by one of the authors listed above, on infections, chest, blood, cardiovascular and renal, digestive and metabolic disorders. The pattern is

familiar - a paper is summarized in 1-2 pages and this is followed by a short editorial note which is usually helpful and perceptive and seldom obtrusive. The book has been quickly produced so that abstracts of papers published as late as April 1964 are included. The authors and publishers are to be congratulated on this and on the admirable quality of their extremely useful annual review of medical progress.

D A PYKE

Genetics for the Clinician

by C A Clarke MA MD SCD FRCP

2nd ed pp xix + 377 illustrated 50s

Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications 1964

Dr Clarke's book was first published in 1962 and a second edition has already appeared. It is intended to 'arouse in clinicians some curiosity about genetics'. It consists of eight chapters on general genetic subjects which pick up the uninformed clinician at the start and deposit him some way along the path to understanding modern genetics and its rapid advance. Then follow chapters on specific systems and diseases (including three new ones on chest, renal and neuropsychiatric disorders). At the end come studies of pharmacogenetics, the effects of radiation, and the heredity clinic and finally a chapter on elementary statistics.

As the title implies, the book is aimed at the clinician and for him it will be invaluable. The information is wide, the references full, the style personal, clear and vivid and the general production is up to the usual Blackwell standard. The book succeeds brilliantly in its object and is easy and delightful to read. There can be few clinicians who would not find it rewarding; it surely should be on every educated doctor's bookshelf.

D A PYKE

Progress in Angiography

compiled and edited by Manuel Viamonte jr MD and Raymond E Parks MD

pp xii + 562 illustrated \$29.50

Springfield, Ill.: Charles C Thomas 1964

This book consists of a series of papers on aspects of angiography ranging from the larger cavities of and structure of the heart (Abrams and others), through large vessels such as the renal (Olsson) and smaller arteries such as the coronaries (Mason Sones and others), down to the microcirculation of the lymphatic system and its nodes (Altman, Viamonte). Each section is followed by an account of a panel discussion. The angiographs and text are beautifully produced. The work will be of great value to workers in varied clinical and radiological fields, who owe a debt of gratitude to Doctors Viamonte and Parks for editing it.

J B KINMONTH